



COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Twenty-ninth Session

Rome, Italy, 31 January – 4 February 2011

FOLLOW-UP TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, ROME, ITALY, 2-6 MARCH 2009

SUMMARY

At its Twenty-eighth Session in March 2009, COFI made a number of recommendations to the Secretariat and Members. This informational document summarizes actions taken by the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, usually in collaboration with Members, to address the principal recommendations directed to the Secretariat.

In the attached table, the “No.” coheres with the numbering of “PROGRAMME AND BUDGETARY MATTERS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL” from page x to xiii of the Report of the twenty-eighth session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 2-6 March 2009 (COFI/2011/Inf.5) and the “Para” coheres with the paragraph number of the Report.

**PRIORITY MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION
BY THE FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE DEPARTMENT AND ACTIONS TAKEN**

No.	Recommendations	Para	Actions Taken
i	Biennial reporting on progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and related instruments	10	The biennial survey by questionnaire was conducted and the outcomes are reported to the Twenty-ninth session of COFI
	Develop a roster of experts and make it available to countries to support them in their Code implementation effort	12	Formal roster not developed yet but assistance provided to Members, on a request basis, for the identification of experts.
ii	Publication of the best practices technical guidelines for implementation of IPOA-Seabirds	13	The document initially published in English has now been translated into Spanish, French, Chinese and Arabic (in press).
iii	Consider the development of electronic options for reporting on the implementation of the Code	17	An electronic questionnaire for reporting by Members on progress of the Code implementation has been developed and tested in all official FAO languages. A report on the test is in document, COFI/2011/2.Supp.1.
iv	Develop guidelines on best practices for safety at sea	19	The FAO Secretariat is now in the process of preparing the first draft of the guidelines.
v	Continue collaborating with IMO and ILO especially in the areas of safety at sea, work on fishing vessels and health standards	20	<p>The development of a new safety standard for small fishing vessels titled “FAO/ILO/IMO Safety recommendations for decked fishing vessels of less than 12 metres in length and undecked fishing vessels” was recently completed. It was approved by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) in May 2010, after which it was sent to ILO and FAO for subsequent acceptance.</p> <p>Furthermore, new FAO/ILO/IMO guidelines to assist Competent Authorities in the implementation of Part B of the Fishing Vessels Safety Code, the Voluntary Guidelines and the Safety Recommendations (Implementation Guidelines) are expected to be completed by the IMO Sub-Committee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety in January 2011 for approval by the MSC in May 2011. Thereafter the guidelines would be transmitted to ILO and FAO for their consideration, as appropriate, with due regard to timely publication.</p> <p>With respect to the issues of marine pollution and</p>

			<p>the impacts of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, FI has collaborated with IMO in the review of MARPOL Annex V and its Guidelines through participation in IMO Marine Environmental Protection Committee [MEPC 59, 60 and 61] meetings, the Intersessional Correspondence Group established for review of MARPOL Annex V and the Working Group established for the same purpose. The FAO-UNEP study on abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gears (FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 523 UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 185) was distributed to MEPC members and available to those participating in the review of MARPOL Annex V.</p> <p>The FAO has also participated in IMO MEPC meetings to analyze the progress made with respect to GHG emissions and energy efficiency in the maritime transportation sector.</p>
	Consider addressing issues relating to child labour in the fisheries sector	20	<p>In cooperation with ILO and FAO's Gender, Equity and Rural Employment Division, FI convened a Workshop on Child Labour in Fisheries and Aquaculture, Rome, 14 -16 April 2010. The Report has been published as FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report. No. 944. Rome, FAO. 2010. 34p. The Workshop's conclusions and recommendations have been presented in a workshop on child labour in agriculture at the occasion of the Hague Global Child Labour Conference, 10-11 May 2010. In follow-up, FAO and ILO have been requested and are committed to develop jointly guidance materials on how to tackle child labour in fisheries and aquaculture.</p>
vi	Promote and sustain national and regional support in a range of activities including the development of databases, the mounting of workshops and skills enhancement in other areas	21	<p>FAO attaches high importance to capacity development. The Organization conducts its own training programmes and cooperates with a wide range of partner organizations to deliver capacity development. Capacity development activities focus on strengthening human and institutional capacity to promote long-term sustainability in fisheries and aquaculture and improving governance.</p>
vii	Support the convening of a workshop to consider technical matters relating to the attached shark-fin rule	23	<p>While a specific workshop on technical matters relating to the shark-fin rule has not yet been organized, broader technical matters related to sharks have been addressed through a number of activities. These include (i) the FAO/CITES Workshop on the Effects of a Regulation of International Trade on the Status, Fisheries and Trade of Elasmobranchs in Comparison with Other Regulations, Genazzano near Rome, Italy, 19-23 July 2010, (ii) a global review on shark resources, fisheries, products and their management (in prep.),</p>

			<p>(iii) publication of Report of the Technical Workshop on the Status, Limitations and Opportunities for Improving the Monitoring of Shark Fisheries and Trade, Rome, Italy, 3-6 November 2008, (iv) publication “Sharks of the world. An annotated and illustrated catalogue of shark species known to date,</p> <p>Volumes 1 and 3 (in prep.) and (v) publication of six sharks fact sheets in FIRMS’ web site.</p>
	Provide assistance to developing countries in relation to the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fish Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, in particular for small-scale and artisanal fisheries	27	A review of potentially negative impacts on small scale fisheries of market-based environmental sustainability requirements has been published as FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No 1052.
viii	Carry out additional work in relation to the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fish Products from Inland Capture Fisheries	28	The Expert Consultation on the Development of FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries was held in Rome from 25 to 27 May 2010. With the endorsement in advance by the 12 th Session of COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 26-30 April 2010, the outcome of the Expert Consultation and draft Guidelines will be forwarded to the 29 th Session of COFI for its consideration.
	Ensure consistency between the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fish Products from Marine Capture Fisheries and the draft Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification	29	The background papers, the working paper and the draft guidelines for aquaculture certification prepared for the technical consultation on aquaculture certification and for the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture were carefully checked for consistency with the Eco-labelling guidelines. Likewise, the latter were consulted at large and as needed during the deliberations of both meetings
ix	Present a proposal to the next Sub-Committee on Fish Trade (COFI:FT) under which it could assess private ecolabelling schemes and then seek guidance from COFI:FT on how to proceed on this activity	31	<p>Various options to assess the conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries (the Guidelines) were presented to the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade. The Sub-Committee subsequently agreed that the FAO Secretariat should develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the Guidelines.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee also agreed that as a first step in this process the Secretariat should convene an Expert Consultation to initiate work on the evaluation framework. The results of the Expert Consultation would then be considered by the Twenty-ninth Session of COFI in January 2011. COFI would provide guidance on how to proceed with this issue.</p>

			An Expert Consultation to develop an FAO evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private eco-labelling schemes with the FAO guidelines for the eco-labelling of fish and fishery products from marine capture fisheries was held from 24 to 26 November 2010
x	Continue to provide technical advice to the CITES in relation to listing proposals for commercially exploited aquatic species	32	In December 2009, the third Expert Advisory Panel met to review six proposals to ban or restrict international trade in a number of shark species, Atlantic bluefin tuna, Spiny dogfish and Red and Pink corals. At CoP-15 in March 2010, the scientific conclusions of the FAO Panel were widely acknowledged but not always adhered to. None of these proposals achieved the two thirds majority required for adoption, even in cases where the Panel had concluded that the species met the relevant listing criteria.
xi	Continue to provide technical input to the fisheries subsidies negotiation in WTO and that the secretariat share information with Members on its activities Use FAO/CITES MOU as a model for a cooperative framework with WTO	33	The stage of actively developing such a Memorandum of Understanding has not yet been reached, but the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department has been closely involved in the fisheries subsidies negotiation in WTO. FI has been participating as an observer to the meetings of the WTO Negotiating Group on Rules, which addresses the question of fisheries subsidies. It has twice received a visit of the Chair of the Group in Rome, the last one on March 31, 2010. In early May 2010, upon invitation of WTO, the two directors of the Department, accompanied by two senior officers, made presentations to an informal meeting of the Group on the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries: the international instruments and institutional frameworks • National institutions for fisheries management • Implementation of fisheries management: requirements, options and obstacles • Stock assessment and the long-term sustainability of fishery resources The level of attendance was very high and each presentation was followed by extensive questions and answers, which demonstrated the usefulness of the exercise and stimulated awareness of the need and importance of continuing to cooperate and work on the issue of subsidies and good fisheries management and governance, which is of great importance to the two organizations. Some months later, upon the request of WTO, technical support was provided to a regional seminar (28-29 September 2010 in Manila, the

			<p>Philippines) on the Negotiations on Rules – Fisheries Subsidies. Fifteen countries participated from the ASEAN and Pacific island countries. The seminar was designed to disseminate the progress of the negotiations and the position of the major players, particularly on the special and differential treatment of fisheries subsidies for developing countries. In that seminar a senior officer from the Department, who had already participated in the May 2010 meeting, made a presentation on fishery management and subsidies and chaired a half day session on fishery sustainability and subsidies.</p> <p>It is important to stress that FAO is not expected to provide inputs on the core and substantive aspects of the question of subsidies themselves, which are issues that must be considered within and by the WTO Negotiating Group only, but on the issues related to fisheries management and governance, including the ways and means to assess their level of effectiveness and efficiency, which are relevant in this specific context.</p>
xii	Develop best practices guidelines for catch documentation schemes and for traceability for consideration by the next session of COFI:FT	34	<p>The Sub-Committee on Fish Trade considered a document reviewing the use of traceability in the fisheries sector and exploring options for integration of traceability requirements.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee agreed that traceability initiatives were useful tools to verify the integrity of the supply chain and noted that in the fisheries sector they are mainly used to help meet both food safety and sustainability objectives. Members agreed on the benefits of integrating traceability requirements but also recognized that the traceability requirements for food safety were somewhat different from those linked to sustainability. The integration of these requirements was therefore not straightforward.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee agreed that FAO should have an ongoing role in providing technical assistance to countries implementing traceability systems or seeking to integrate their traceability systems. The FAO should also monitor technical developments and assess their applicability in traceability systems</p>
xiii	Develop guidelines for the assessment of fisheries in data-poor situations	35	<p>In June 2010 an expert group representing relevant disciplines and broad geographic scope, met to evaluate the suitability of existing methods for biological assessments, in data and capacity poor situations. A working document was prepared in advance as a basis for discussion. As a result of the workshop, an agreed annotated outline was prepared and draft guidelines are being peer-reviewed and are expected to be published by December 2010</p>

xiv	Support the Special Programme for Aquaculture Development in Africa (SPADA)	40	<p>In working with NEPAD and other regional bodies, the Department established a Special Programme for Aquaculture Development in Africa (known as SPADA), which represents the Department's strategic programme approach to address aquaculture development in Africa. With financial support by the Governments of Spain, Japan and Germany, the Department developed field projects on fish genetic improvement, small and medium enterprises and improving small farmers' income through promotion of aquaculture in Africa. Within the SPADA framework and in consultation with CIFAA(Committee for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa) Secretariat, FAO assisted ANAF (Aquaculture Network for Africa) in establishing a Regional Aquaculture Information System (RAIS) for Sub-Saharan-Africa (ANAF Web site). Thus, a project proposal was prepared for the development of the RAIS, suggested the RAIS design and identified IT consultants to develop the Web site. As a result, nine databases have been developed to store regional aquaculture information. FAO also supported SPADA through TCP projects and organising meetings such as CIFAA, which aimed at strengthening national, sub-regional and regional institutions and developing aquaculture in a sustainable manner by, <i>inter-alia</i>, developing suitable aquaculture policies, strategies and plans for 5 countries.</p>
xv	Establish a regional programme toward improving aquatic biosecurity in southern Africa	40	<p>Two consultations were organized to discuss aquatic biosecurity framework in southern Africa: (i) FAO Workshop on the Development of an Aquatic Biosecurity Framework for Southern Africa held in Lilongwe, Malawi in April 2008 and (ii) FAO Aquatic Biosecurity Framework for Southern Africa: A Scoping Meeting of Fisheries and Veterinary Authorities, held in Namibia in October 2009. An ongoing regional TCP - TCP/RAF/3111 Emergency assistance to combat epizootic ulcerative syndrome (EUS) in the Chobe-Zambesi River system provided the necessary basic aquatic animal health capacity building and skills to implement a surveillance programme for EUS in southern Africa. Activities undertaken towards development and establishment of a regional programme on aquatic biosecurity include a regional survey on capacity and performance (10 countries) and analysis and a regional workshop (2008); a scoping meeting of fisheries/aquaculture and veterinary authorities (2009); and a regional workshop on biosecurity risk assessment methods and tools (2010). Discussions are continuing on</p>

			further steps to be taken towards completing the process of regional framework development, including final scope and elements. Mechanisms for sourcing funds and implementation building on activities carried out during last two years.
xvi	Continue work towards establishing regional aquaculture networks in Africa and the Americas and promote interregional cooperation	41	FAO has continued its efforts in promoting regional networks in three continents, i.e. NACEE-Network of Aquaculture Centres in Central-Eastern Europe; RAA - Aquaculture Network of the Americas; and ANAF-Aquaculture Network for Africa. They are now at different levels of functioning and continuing efforts will be made to strengthen these networks.
	Improve aquaculture data and information	42	FAO has taken the initiative to establish an international coordination mechanism for harmonizing aquaculture data collection and succeeded to establish an Aquaculture Group under the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics. It led to drafting the CWP Handbook on Standards of Aquaculture Statistics and held expert workshop to review and finalize the draft on 10-14 Nov 2009 in Ha Long city of Vietnam. The first meeting of CWP-AS was held in conjunction with the 5 th session of the COFI:AQ in Phuket, Thailand on 2 October 2010. The final draft of the CWP Handbook (aquaculture Chapter) will be made available at the 29 th session of COFI for comments.
	Report the implementation of the Code's provisions on aquaculture on a biennial basis	42	In respond to recommendations on improving the reporting mechanism, a revised questionnaire has been developed and tested and evaluated by selected experts and focal points from various regions. A revised version was then reviewed by an expert workshop that recommended a final version together with strategic and technical actions regarding its use. The new reporting system consisting of a specific aquaculture questionnaire and reporting process can be fully tested in the next two biennia with provisions for review and some modifications as needed. The electronic interface is being developed within the web reporting system for the full CCRF questionnaire testing and this will be presented to the 29th Session of COFI.
xvii	Further work, in relation to aquaculture, on aquatic animal health management, food safety, governance, legislation, organizing farmers, small-scale aquaculture, capacity building, sustainable use of wild resources as seed and	43	Studies on selected issues related to aquaculture sustainability have been completed and have led to a number of technical guidelines as supplements to the CCRF. Important issues addressed included work towards empowerment of small farmers, indicators in small-scale aquaculture, geographical information systems, aquatic biosecurity, health management and risk analysis, farming systems,

	feed, environmental issue, availability of fish feed and offshore aquaculture		<p>review on status of aquatic genetic resources and its use for fisheries and aquaculture, biodiversity, and climate change effects on aquaculture particularly focusing on adaptation and opportunities in mitigation. Technical assistance, through TCP/TCP facility, on improving aquatic animal health management capacity was provided to many countries both at national (e.g. Malaysia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Iraq, Marshall Islands) and regional levels (Western Balkan region, Southern African region, RECOFI region). Technical guidelines to enhance the contribution of aquaculture to food security, poverty alleviation and socio-economic growth, and guidelines on aquaculture certification are also being developed.</p> <p>In March 2010, a technical workshop was organized on the developmental needs of off-the-coast and offshore marine aquaculture development.</p>
xvii i	Develop a comprehensive and strategic programme of work in support of the future work of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture and help measure progress and form an Expert Group of Members to assist the process	44	<p>FAO is undergoing a reform process to better respond to increasing demands from Members to ensure that resources and capacity be used in the process as efficiently as possible and that FAO is pursuing a results-based management approach. Progress is being monitored. The Department is continuously interacting with donors and exploring every opportunity to secure funding to support the priorities of the Members. There is need to set clear priorities and Members are encouraged to provide advice on the priority areas and the elements of the strategic framework.</p>
xix	Develop and finalize the Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification and secure funding to conduct a Technical Consultation as soon as possible in 2009 in order to develop revised draft Technical Guidelines to be submitted to COFI at its next session for approval	45	<p>The Technical Consultation on the Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification was held in Rome from 15 to 19 February 2010. The report with the draft Guidelines was forwarded to 5th Session of COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture for endorsement and then to 29th Session of COFI for approval.</p>
xx	Convene the Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010	47	<p>The Global Conference on Aquaculture 2010: Farming the Waters for People and Food was held in Phuket, Thailand, from 22 to 25 September 2010 by FAO in collaboration with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) and Thai Department of Fisheries.</p>
	Establish new RFMO/As in areas where they do not exist and to strengthen the capabilities of RFMO/As to achieve effective	53	<p>The Agreement for the establishment under article XIV of the FAO Constitution of the Central Asian and the Caucasus Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFAC) was approved by the Hundred and Thirty-seventh Session of the FAO</p>

	<p>implementation of UNGA Resolution 61/105 and the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas</p>		<p>Council in October 2009. It will enter into force as soon as at least three countries ratify or accede to the Agreement. Its objectives are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and best utilization of living aquatic resources, including the sustainable development of aquaculture. A five-year programme of work has been prepared and will be submitted for discussion and adoption by the Third Intergovernmental Meeting on the Establishment of CACFAC, which is scheduled to take place in late 2010. The mandate of the new body includes the inland waters within the territorial boundaries of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Management of fisheries in the transboundary water basins bordering these states will be undertaken in collaboration with the</p> <p>Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia and with other RFBs, particularly the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission.</p> <p>FAO is providing support to the preparatory discussions that are under way for the establishment of a regional fishery mechanism for the coastal states of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden in response to a request at the Twenty-eighth Session of the COFI.</p> <p>Outside FAO, the international consultations on the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) concluded with the adoption of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources of the South Pacific Ocean in Auckland, New Zealand, in November 2009. The Convention opened for signature on 1 February 2010 and will remain open for 12 months. It will enter into force 30 days after the deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification, accession, acceptance or approval (of which three must be coastal states and three non-coastal States).</p>
xxi-xxii i	<p>Provide technical and financial support to developing countries in implementing the International Guidelines on Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas</p> <p>Continue to play a leading role in relation to assistance for the implementation of the</p>	54, 58, 59	<p>Following the approval by COFI in 2009 of the proposed FAO Programme on Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, FAO has initiated several activities and continues to seek donor contributions to support the full implementation of the FAO Programme. This programme will ensure wider implementation of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas (Deep-sea Guidelines) with participation of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (RFMOs/As),</p>

	<p>International Guidelines with regard to the management of fisheries resources exploited through deep-sea fishing as well as identification and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems on the basis of the best available scientific data</p> <p>Implement FAO programme on the management of deep-sea fisheries in high seas</p>		<p>fisheries and conservation managers, the deep-sea fishing industry, scientists, non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations (NGOs and IGOs). The programme consists of four main components, each of which includes special considerations for developing countries: (i) Support tools for the management of deep-sea fisheries and protection of VMEs, (ii) a Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) database, (iii) Implementation of management tools for deep-sea fisheries and VMEs in discrete areas, and (iv) Global coordination, dissemination of information, and evaluation. FAO, through regular programme and extra-budgetary support, has carried out several activities in support of the implementation of the Deep-sea Fisheries Guidelines.</p> <p>FAO is currently developing a Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem Database which will assist those implementing the Deep-sea Guidelines and will be initiated in the last quarter of 2010. Work on a data collection manual to provide assistance in meeting new data collection requirements has commenced. Two workshops were organized in 2009 to initiate the activities on deep-sea species identification and collaboration with the industry on fishing-vessel execution of acoustic surveys for deep-sea species. In addition, alpha codes for the identification of deep-sea species, including invertebrates, will be added to the "ASFIS List of species" as requested by RFMO/As. Efforts to collect historical data on deep-sea fisheries will assist RFMO/As, particularly in data poor areas. FAO also held a Workshop on the implementation of the Deep-sea Guidelines in Busan, Republic of Korea (May 10 to 12 2010) to examine issues in the implementation as well as ways forward.</p>
xxiv	Draft legally-binding instrument on port State measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing	65	The FAO Conference on 22 November 2009 approved the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (the Agreement) as an Article XIV instrument under the FAO Constitution. Immediately following its approval, the Agreement opened for signature. It remained open for one year. 23 FAO Members had signed the Agreement. It will enter into force 30 days after the date of the deposit of the twenty-fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depositary, the Director-General of FAO.
xxv	Ensure that developing countries receive appropriate assistance, particularly	69	FAO has elaborated a comprehensive capacity-development programme, including the drafting of training materials, to support the implementation of

	capacity building across a broad range of MCS issues including a capacity building programme on port State measures		the port State measures Agreement. This programme is to be funded by extra-budgetary resources. The programme will involve a global series of participatory workshops to assist developing countries implement the Agreement. It is proposed that the training should commence prior to the entry into force of the Agreement so that countries will be prepared to implement the measures it contains.
xxvi	Convene an Expert Consultation on Flag State Performance Criteria as agreed during COFI 27, to be followed by Technical Consultation.	70	<p>The Expert Consultation on Flag State Performance was held at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy, in June 2009.</p> <p>The Technical Consultation on Flag State Performance was scheduled to be held in Rome from 28 June to 2 July 2010. However, the meeting was postponed because insufficient funds were pledged to support the Consultation. Funds for the Consultation have now been secured and it will be held from 2 to 6 May 2011. A report on the outcome of the Consultation will be made to the next session of the Committee on Fisheries.</p>
xxvi i	Develop a comprehensive Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels including assessing user needs, convene a broad-based Steering Committee, design and implement a pilot project and prepare a comprehensive technical report which could lead to a Technical Consultation on the Global Record.	71	<p>A programme of work for the Global Record (GR) was endorsed by the Twenty-eighth session of COFI, leading toward a Technical Consultation, which was held from 8 to 12 November 2010. The outcome and recommendations from the Technical Consultation will be reported to the Twenty-ninth Session of COFI. The TC was asked to consider: scope, UVI, phased implementation, information access, legal issues, needs of developing countries, and management. Highlights of this GR work programme have included a study to examine options for the most important feature of a GR, a unique vessel identifier (UVI) which will stay with a vessel forever, regardless of any changes to the vessel's flag, ownership or status. The UVI was identified as a mandatory prerequisite in the initial feasibility study done by FAO on the GR. COFI directed that a UVI for the GR should try to take advantage of existing numbering schemes.</p> <p>Additional technical studies for the GR regarding options for a phased implementation were done as part of the work programme. The manner and impact of implementation are significant, given the potentially large number</p>

			<p>of vessels which the GR may include and the time which will be needed for national authorities to obtain and submit the necessary information for a UVI. Technical design studies were also carried out. User needs assessments were carried out at workshops and seminars as funding permitted. Awareness raising was done at a wide variety of events to reach a broad cross section of stakeholders as the GR will be of benefit to many.</p> <p>A pilot project is underway to explore how a GR might function. The pilot was arranged with the cooperation of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), and IHS-Fairplay, formerly Lloyd's Register-Fairplay. Additional pilot projects, also involving UVIs, were explored with the joint tuna RFMOs.</p>
xxvi ii	Develop International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards and convene an Expert Consultation followed by a Technical Consultation	72	FAO convened an Expert Consultation to develop draft text for International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards in December 2009 and a Technical Consultation to further Develop International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards was held in Rome from 6 to 10 December 2010.
	Establish a regional fishery body to bring together the coastal States of the Red Sea.	82	Preparatory discussions are under way, with FAO support, for the establishment of a regional fishery mechanism for the coastal states of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden in response to a request at the Twenty-eighth Session of the COFI.
xxix	Examine various options to carry forward suggestions relating to the need for an international instrument on small-scale fisheries and establish a specific global programme dedicated to small-scale fisheries	83	Three Regional Workshops, Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries: Bringing together responsible fisheries and social development, were held in Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America and Caribbean Regions in October 2010 respectively. The workshops elaborated on (i) the scope and contents of a possible international instrument on sustainable small-scale fisheries development, and (ii) priorities and implementation modalities of a global assistance programme for small-scale fisheries
xxx	Play a more proactive role in matters relating to climate changes and collaborate actively with other organizations to avoid duplication of efforts	88	Under the leadership of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department's Working Group on Climate Change, the Department played an active role in the development of the Global Partnership on Climate, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PaCFA) and undertook a wide range of activities and outputs aimed at increasing the visibility of fisheries and aquaculture in the global climate change discussions and funding mechanisms. PaCFA is developing a global strategy and programme to

			<p>address climate change implications for fisheries and aquaculture with concerned institutions.</p> <p>Also in collaboration with PaCFA partners, two reports were produced on the implications of climate change for fisheries and aquaculture (FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 530) and on the role of oceans and coasts in the carbon cycle (Rapid Assessment report on Blue Carbon).</p> <p>Through a series of global and regional workshops and projects, work has begun on developing best practices and increasing knowledge for reducing the vulnerability of fishing and fish farming communities to climate change and disasters by 1) integrating Disaster Risk Management (DRM), climate change and the sector's food security and development needs; 2) implementing the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries / Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture (EAF/EAA) to climate proof the sector; and 3) identifying and promoting context-specific adaptation and mitigation strategies.</p> <p>FI has participated in IMO MEPC meetings to analyze the progress made with respect to GHG emissions and energy efficiency in the maritime transportation sector and to explore whether a similar approach to the IMO 2nd GreenHouse Gas study could be applied to fisheries.</p> <p>FI is a member of the Steering Committee for the International Symposium of Energy Use in Fisheries held in November 2010 Seattle, USA. During the symposium, FAO held an expert workshop to explore the application of carbon footprint metrics to the fisheries sector and the constraints and opportunities associated with development of energy savings policy for fisheries.</p> <p>For additional information on these and other activities, please refer to COFI/2011/6.</p>
xxxiv	Prioritize among the different activities related to the six Organizational Results of the strategic objective C based on the concrete suggestion made by Members on what they	100	Prioritization of activities proposed by member countries is reflected in PWB 2010-11. The question of prioritization is addressed in COFI/2011/9 "FAO's Programme of Work in Fisheries and Aquaculture"

	considered as high priorities		
xxx v	Include a specific reference to small-scale fisheries in the six Organizational Results, as appropriate	102	The issue of small scale fisheries will be considered by COFI 29 in relation to the development of an international instrument and a Global Programme as well as in the discussions regarding the PWB 2012-13 in particular in regard to the question of identification of priorities
xxx vi	Provide a fully elaborated results framework and structure analysis of priorities, as well as a more transparent and comprehensive reporting on the activities	103	Analysis of priorities are presented in COFI/2011/9 "FAO's Programme of Work in Fisheries and Aquaculture"
xxx vii	Maintain the current timing for COFI Sessions to the extent possible	105	The timing of the 29 th Session of COFI was kept close to the timing of the preceding sessions of COFI. However, the 30 th Session will be held during the second week of July 2012, as decided by FAO Governing Bodies.

